

OCT 19 2004

EXPEDITED EXAMINING PROCEDURE

PATENT
Docket No. 56733US002IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): MITTLESTADT et al.)
Serial No.: 09/888,732)
Confirmation No.: 2092)
Filed: June 25, 2001)
For: RESPIRATOR VALVE)

Group Art Unit: 3743
Examiner: Andrea M. Ragonese

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Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Examiner Andrea M. Ragonese
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Mueting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.

19 OCTOBER 2004
Date

By: KW Raasch
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Facsimile Cover Sheet and the paper(s), as described hereinabove, are being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office addressed to the Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, Attn: Examiner Andrea M. Ragonese, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 19th day of October, 2004, at 12:30 p.m. (Central Time).

19 October 2004
Date

Signature: Rachel Gagliardi-Gibson
Name: Rachel Gagliardi-Gibson

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OFFICIAL
Expedited Examining Procedure
Group Art Unit 3743PATENT
Docket No. 56733US002IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Wm MITTELSTADT et al.)	Group Art Unit:	3743
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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Final Office Action mailed August 20, 2004 has been received. Claims 1, 3, 7-11, 13-21, 34-46, 49-53, and 56 remain pending. Claims 34-42 have been indicated as allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3, 7-11, 13-21, 43-36, 49-53, and 56 are respectfully requested.

Allowable Claims

Applicants note that claims 34-42 have been indicated as allowable.

Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1, 3, 7-11, 13-21, 43-46, and 56 were provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-18 of co-pending U.S. Patent App. No. 09/888,943. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.